



College of Business Administration

# THE ADVANTAGE

Volume Five, Number Two



**Consulting in South Africa is an  
adventure for Executive MBA team**

page 5



## Our time has arrived!

**W**hat an exciting Summer and Fall! Work on Mammel Hall has accelerated, and you can see the progress on our construction-cam at [cba.unomaha.edu](http://cba.unomaha.edu). CBA's website has been completely redesigned and the content has almost doubled. New stories are posted nearly every day.

CBA's Fifth Annual Scholarship Reception brought together scholarship winners, donors, faculty and staff to celebrate scholarly achievement and generous philanthropy. Over 225 enjoyed a beautiful September afternoon on the Roskens Hall patio.

Fundraising for Mammel Hall, including faculty, staff, student and program support, continues. Your help is needed in raising \$6 million more to meet our ambitious construction and program goals. Over the next two years, several appeals will be made for project-specific needs, as well as for general support. I urge you not to wait. Please consider aspects of your education that made a difference for you, and together let's find ways to assure that valuable opportunities are available for future students. Please contribute to this effort and build on the firm foundation of quality education and research already established in UNO's College of Business Administration.

Thank you for your continued interest and encouragement. Our time has arrived! I look forward to working with you to seize the opportunities that lie ahead.

All the best.



Follow the progress of Mammel Hall's construction in stories, videos, photos and webcam on CBA's redesigned website [cba.unomaha.edu](http://cba.unomaha.edu)

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### the ADVANTAGE

is published twice a year by UNO's College of Business Administration for alumni and friends.

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### the ADVANTAGE

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**I**n November 2007, planning began on UNO's new College of Business Administration facility. Carl and Joyce Mammel were recognized at the groundbreaking ceremony on June 2, 2008 as the lead donors along with Bill and Ruth Scott. Thanks to their leadership gifts, we are able to begin the process of planning, designing, and constructing Mammel Hall with a completion date of Fall 2010. The budget for the project is \$41 million, with \$7.5 million directed to establish a program endowment for the college. We have embarked on a campaign to raise \$6 million to complete this transformational project.

The College of Business Administration is preparing the next generation of business leaders to build and drive an economy that brings great value to our community, state, and the nation. In order to continue and extend our work, we must be equipped with the best faculty, technology, facilities and learning opportunities for our students. A number of gift naming opportunities are available that will allow you to permanently affiliate your individual or corporate name with the College. Naming opportunities range from an endowed scholarship at \$10,000 to the Grand Atrium at \$3 million.

If you are considering investing in the College of Business Administration there are many options available for making your gift. There are almost as many variations on ways to make a donation as there are needs to be met. Your gift may be made in the form of cash, stocks and bonds, mutual funds, real estate, or personal property. You may also chose to make a gift to the College's future through estate and financial planning from simple bequests to trusts and annuities. All gifts are important and enhance the lives of students today and in the future.



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# Global Connections

**SINCE 1989,**  
*executive MBA teams  
have completed **75** projects  
in **33** different countries for  
**62** different sponsors*



## **Executive MBA students help local company do business down under**

**I**n the summer of 2008, Birud Sindhav, associate professor of marketing, and three Executive MBA students developed a market entry feasibility report for an Omaha firm considering an international expansion of their business.

The Maids, a household cleaning business, sought help from CBA's Executive MBA program to evaluate the potential for the company in an Australian market.

The business team (pictured from left: Jamie McDonald, Square D; Professor Sindhav; Katherine Brandenburg, Swanson Russell Associates; and Steven Schmitz, OPPD) traveled to Sydney and Melbourne, Australia to complete fieldwork for the project. They collected secondary data,

interviewed various constituencies (consultants, lawyers and competitors) and conducted a successful focus group with Australian consumers.

The Maids accepted the team's recommendations and are preparing to enter the Australian market. The project fulfilled the students' business consulting requirement for completing their Executive MBA degrees.

## Executive MBA candidates assist South African government

A team of UNO Executive MBA students traveled to South Africa with Professor Phani Tej Adidam to help implement the country's plans to restructure its electrical system—plans that will bring electricity to 12 million of the country's people for the first time.

The project fulfilled an Executive MBA program requirement that students work on real-life business issues with global connections. Usually the project entails providing consulting services to businesses seeking to enter the U.S. market or U.S. companies considering entering a foreign market. In this case, the client was the South African government struggling with power shortages, financial problems and difficulties attracting qualified workers.

The project evolved from the contacts of team member John Buckley, an engineer for Omaha Public Power District, who knew people from South Africa involved in electricity issues. Other team members are Kyle Kovar of 3M Co., Rick Manthey of Hewlett Packard, Mike Lewis of Equitable Bank of Nebraska and Anand Kumar of TIBCO Software Inc.

A South African government utility, Eskom, generates nearly all the country's electricity and runs the main transmission lines. But 189 local municipal utilities handle distribution to customers, including maintenance, billing and other services. The restructuring plan being evaluated will replace the local utilities with six regional utilities, each serving a major city.

The restructuring also could encourage the development of a wholesale electricity market and attract third-party power generators to invest in South Africa, Buckley said. Small communities especially want the restructuring to take place, Buckley said. "They're all ready. They would love to join because they're strapped for money and resources. It's been a true learning experience."

Electricity Distribution Industry Holdings Ltd., a South African government agency formed in 2003 to oversee the restructuring, sponsored the UNO project at a cost of about \$25,000.

Nigel Waters, a regional manager for the agency, said the UNO students' recommendations "have the potential of being workable" because of the team members' impartial perspective and research findings.

The students, who began the project in December 2006, graduated in August 2008. However, the South African government invited Professor Adidam and John Buckley to visit South Africa again in November. During this visit, they will conduct high-level workshops and roundtable discussions with various stakeholders in the electricity distribution sector. Profes-

sor Adidam and John Buckley will be presenting the findings of their report, as well as encouraging various entities involved in the project to adopt their recommendations.

"This is pretty unusual and remarkable," Adidam said. "I don't think we have ever taken up a project of such immense importance to a country."

*Quotations from article by Steve Jordon, Omaha World Herald*

Cover: Extreme Boat Ride on the Indian Ocean, South Africa. Helmeted riders clockwise from top left: Nigel Waters (host), John Buckley, Kyle Kovar, Rick Manthey, Mike Lewis, Professor Adidam, Anand Kumar, Nathan Waters

Below: Rick Manthey, Mike Lewis, Kyle Kovar, Anand Kumar, John Buckley, and Professor Tej Adidam





Professor Birud Sindhav



Professor Graham Mitenko in Ukraine

## CBA continues relationship with university in Ukraine

With membership in the World Trade Organization and pending membership in the European Economic Community, Ukraine now has global opportunities for graduates with advanced degrees.

In spring 2008, Graham Mitenko, associate professor of finance, met with university leaders from Cherkasy State Technological Institution to discuss how joint educational programs would help Ukrainian students compete in the world-wide marketplace.

Ukraine has a well-educated, talented and productive workforce and is developing a solid middle class, according to Professor Mitenko.

"Visitors to the city of Kiev would see a lot of the same businesses that they would see in other European capitals," he said. "The American presence is quite noticeable ranging from McDonald's to Ernst and Young."

Mitenko emphasizes that a cooperative educational agreement with Cherkasy State Technological Institute (and other Ukrainian institutes of higher learning) would enhance UNO's reputation as a leader in global business education and provide valuable exchange opportunities for students and instructors.

## Sindhav strengthens ties to sister university in Austria

In spring 2008, Birud Sindhav, associate professor of marketing, taught two sections of an undergraduate course at Management Center Innsbruck (MCI), UNO's sister university in Austria. According to Sindhav, the course focused on the basic principles of marketing in a high-technology environment and included relevant examples from industry. It was one of the final classes students take before graduating.

"Students were very curious about how technology is applied to marketing in the U.S.," Sindhav said. "They took part in the class discussions with zeal and constantly kept me on my toes."

MCI was recently ranked #1 among *fachhochschulen* in Austria by a prestigious Vienna-based business magazine. *Fachhochschulen* are private universities primarily for applied sciences. They are operated by the private sector, but receive governmental support. They have associations with universities from around the world, including UNO.

This year, Sindhav also traveled to Australia with an Executive MBA student team (see story, page 4) and to Ahmedabad, India to present a paper at the Nirma International Conference on Management and to lecture at the Mahatma Gandhi Labor Institute.

Professor Jack Armitage



Professor Ziaul Huq (left) in India

## Armitage teaches in Korea

Jack Armitage, professor of accounting, taught at Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea this past summer. The course, “Business Fraud Examination, Auditing, and Internal Control,” is part of Yonsei’s English language MBA program. Yonsei University was established in 1885 and is the oldest private university in Korea. A major research university and one of Korea’s top universities, Yonsei University has over 300,000 alumni employed in leadership positions around the world.

## Fulbright award benefits Moldova

As recipient of a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant, Jack Armitage will teach and contribute to curriculum development at the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova. Armitage, professor and chair of the department of accounting, received the prestigious award from the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

Professor Armitage traveled to Chisnau, Moldova in October 2008 for three weeks and will return for three more weeks in April 2009. He is teaching auditing and fraud topics to undergraduate and graduate students at the Academy and will work with the department of accounting and audit on curriculum issues. He will also conduct fraud workshops for ACAP, the professional association of accountants and auditors in Moldova.

The Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova has been a partner institute for the college since 1993. Earlier work there led to the establishment of a network of business development centers in five cities. Over the years, there have been numerous faculty and student exchanges.

## Huq’s Fulbright experience

As recipient of an award by The Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), Ziaul Huq, professor of management, worked as a Fulbright Scholar in Bangladesh. He was hosted by East-West University—rated the #1 private university in Bangladesh

in 2008—where he taught two sections of MBA/Executive MBA core operations management classes.

“This experience has helped me understand how core concepts like quality management, lean systems, and process management can be applied to an economically and culturally different business environment,” Huq said.

In addition, Huq gave seminars at North-South University, Dhaka University, World University, Daffodil University, and Prime-Asia University and spoke at the 2008 commencement and inauguration ceremonies of East-West University.

Professor Huq is serving a three-year term as president of the Global Business and Management Forum headquartered at UNO. The organization held its first international conference in Delhi in November. He is also editor of the *Global Business and Management Journal* that will publish its first issue in January 2009. Articles will be posted on the forum’s website ([www.gbmf.info](http://www.gbmf.info)).

## Opportunity for international student internships in France

Jonna Holland, associate professor of marketing, met with Marie Rivulet, business professor at the International Trade School in Dole, France in summer 2008 to discuss the feasibility of international collaboration among UNO and Dole business students. A number of possibilities were reviewed, including potential internship exchanges. Discussions with the dean of the school and business faculty members led to a test project for Spring 2009.

Students in Professor Holland's advertising class will work with Professor Rivulet's International Trade class to analyze similarities and differences between French and American advertising. Students will use Skype and email to discuss consumer culture and cultural symbolism in advertising. A second project may involve comparing retail sales promotions, coupons, and sweepstakes in the two countries and may use additional collaboration software. These joint efforts have the potential to be expanded into more complex international projects in future semesters.

Further extension of this collaboration could involve placing students in international internships. All students at the International Trade School are required to gain proficiency in business English and complete a six-week internship abroad focusing on international business. Two French students have already requested internships in Omaha starting next June. Professor Holland will forward their resumes to local companies that may benefit from the international students' skills.

Difficult logistical barriers such as short-term housing and transportation will need to be overcome. UNO's business



International Trade School in Dole, France

students may be invited to apply for internships in companies based in the region around Dole, known as Franche-Comte. Fluency in French is a prerequisite for such a placement.

## Executive MBA team explores medical tourism in Costa Rica



Executive MBA team in Costa Rica (from left): Mike Hermann, Dr. Tim Ranney, David Volkman, Heather Smith, Sue Brennan

This year, Alegent Health Systems sponsored an exploratory trip to Costa Rica to examine opportunities for partnerships in the medical tourism market. The project was taken on by Executive MBA students Mike Hermann of Rockwell Automation, Heather Smith of Children's Hospital, Sue Brennan of Heartland Automotive Services and Dr. Tim Ranney of Good Samaritan Health Systems, to fulfill the international consulting requirement of their degree program. David Volkman, associate professor of finance, accompanied the team.

Through medical tourism, patients travel overseas to receive medical procedures that are less expensive and at the same time, enjoy the experiences of an exotic location.

## Report quantifies impact of immigration on Nebraska economy



As Nebraska's immigrant census number nears 100,000, it has become vitally important to have more than an anecdotal grasp of the economic effects of this population.

For the first time, the multi-billion dollar impact on the state's economy have been quantified in a report commissioned by OLLAS (UNO Office of Latino/Latin American Studies). The 37-page report published in October, 2008 measures the per capita contributions of first-generation immigrants in property, income, sales, and gasoline taxes and the cost per capita for the state in food stamps, public assistance, health, and education services.

The research based on 2006 census demographic data was conducted by Chris Decker, associate professor of economics, in collaboration with Jerry Deichert, director of UNO's Center for Public Research, and Lourdes Gouveia, director of OLLAS.

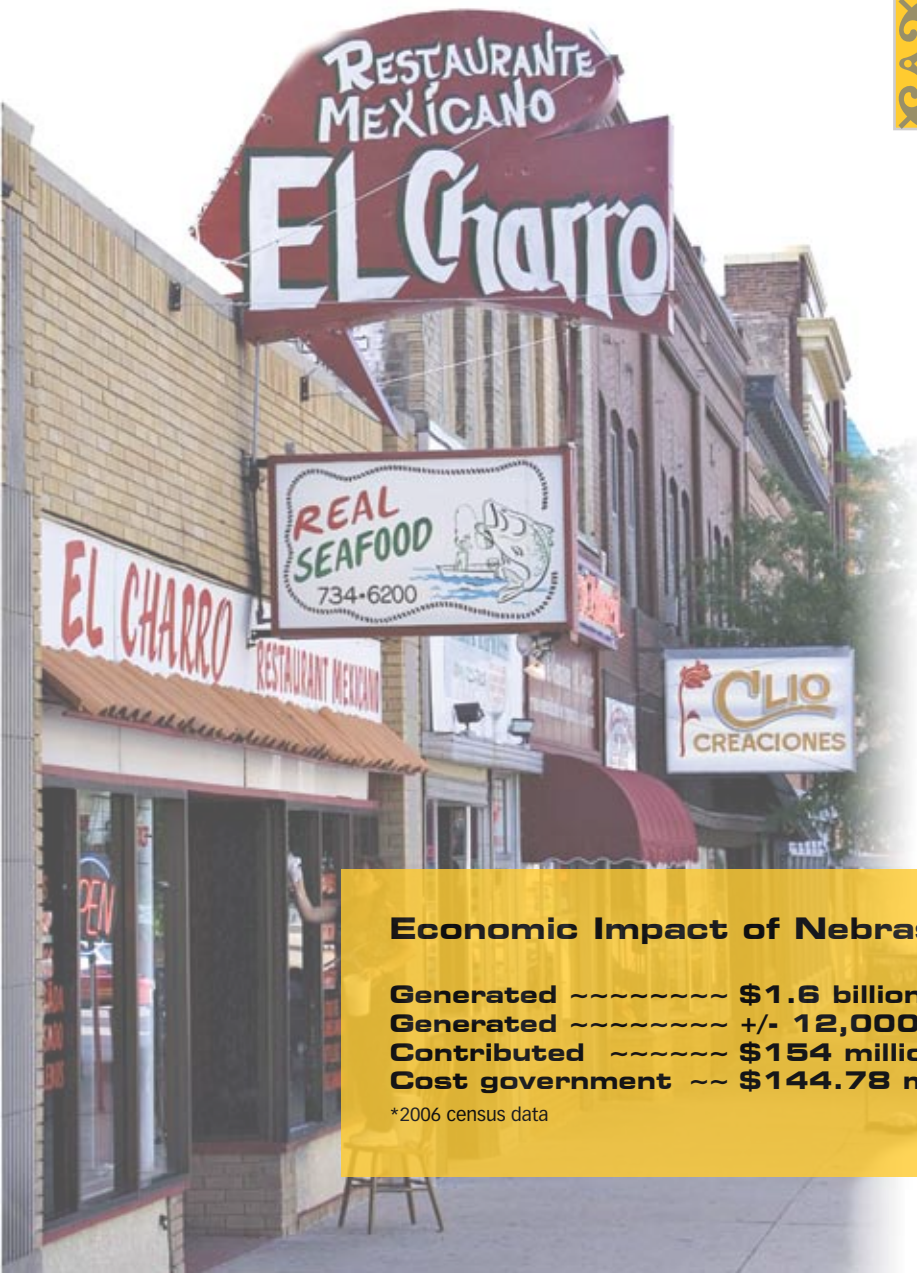
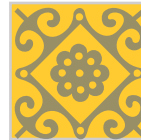
"We paid particular attention to immigrant groups from Latin America since issues surrounding these new immigrants are important to Nebraskans," Decker said. "Our investigation certainly reveals that this group in particular, as well as the total foreign-born population as a whole, contributes significantly to our state's economy."

Among other findings, the study determined that nearly 30,000 jobs are filled by immigrant workers primarily in three industries: meat packing, construction, and food and hospitality service sectors. A scientific model projected a significant impact on corollary jobs and total production output if immigrants were not available to fill these jobs.

"This research provides a wealth of information that city and county officials, business people, state legislators, and educators can use," Deichert said. "It also sets the stage for more research to be pursued."

The entire report is available online at [www.unomaha.edu/ollas](http://www.unomaha.edu/ollas).

*Quotations from UNO's eNotes*



### Economic Impact of Nebraska Immigrants \*

<b>Generated</b>	~~~~~	<b>\$1.6 billion</b>	~~~~~	<b>production/output</b>
<b>Generated</b>	~~~~~	<b>+/- 12,000</b>	~~~~~	<b>jobs</b>
<b>Contributed</b>	~~~~~	<b>\$154 million</b>	~~~~~	<b>tax revenue</b>
<b>Cost government</b>	~~	<b>\$144.78 million</b>	~~	<b>services</b>

\*2006 census data



## CBA professor works in school of really hard knocks

**W**hile most of us tinker around the house or simply relax on weekends, Darryll Lewis travels to the Sunday game. For 12 years, he has worked the 16-week National Football League season as an NFL referee. More specifically, he's a line judge—right in the middle of it on the line of scrimmage.

Lewis started officiating at the North Omaha Boy's Club in 1968, refereeing games at no charge. He was fourteen years old. In junior and high schools he played football and refereed midget and pee wee football on the weekends. Eventually, he moved up every rung of the officiating ladder—to junior varsity, varsity high school, small college, the Big Eight Conference (now the Big 12), NFL Europe and finally to the NFL in 1997.

Lewis, associate professor of law, has been at UNO for 22 years and teaches in the undergraduate, MBA and Executive MBA programs. He has served as advisor on many Executive MBA international research projects. This semester he has 150 students in three classes. Lewis received his J.D. from Creighton University and occasionally takes on a case for family, friends, or students.

Meditating on the two lives he leads, Professor Lewis said, "football is a great diversion from teaching and teaching a great diversion from football." Asked if he uses sports analo-

gies in the classroom (he teaches Finance, Banking, and Law), Lewis admits "occasionally they can relate to tort law and assumption of risk." Although he generally keeps football out of the class, his students follow his game schedule.

Preparation for football starts in March with a qualifying physical and he reports to camp in July. This leaves mid-May to mid-June for himself and he likes to travel internationally to relax. Lewis speaks French and this past year visited the family he lived with in France as a foreign exchange student.





**Judith Watanabe**, associate professor of accounting, is preparing to retire after an affiliation with the University that began in 1972 as a student. After receiving an undergraduate degree from Miami University of Ohio, she came to UNO to take courses that would prepare her for the CPA exam. She earned her doctorate at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

When asked what she feels is the best part of her career at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Watanabe has a simple answer—"it's the students." For the past 25 years, she has watched often first-generation college students influence their community as leaders in almost every organization in Omaha and the region.

Watanabe and Professor David Buehlmann developed an internship program—still going strong today—that served as the model for a program later developed for the other departments in the College. Her former students and colleagues will argue that her most important achievement is the care she gave to each student in her classes. She and her husband Mike are retiring to Colorado and Arizona.



**Curt Bayer**, director of the Executive MBA program, is retiring from his second successful career. Curt became the Executive MBA director in 1998 following a distinguished Air Force career of 28 years, the last 11 years as a full colonel. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy War College and received his Executive MBA degree from UNO.

As director of the Executive MBA program, Bayer was integral to the delivery and scheduling of courses in the program, recruitment of businesses for the international consulting project, student recruitment and retention, and more recently, executive management education.

Bayer is active in the community as board member with the Nebraska Organization of Volunteer Leaders and board member, web designer and webmaster with the American Business Women's Association, Downtown Omaha Chapter; Chicano Awareness Center; Heartland Latino Leadership Conference; National Alliance for Mental Illness; and Nonprofit Association of the Midlands.

Bayer and wife, Nona, look forward to seeing the country from their mobile home.



**Dale Eesley** is the new assistant professor and director of the UNO's entrepreneurship program. Not only is he teaching Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurial Finance and Business and Corporate Strategy, but Eesley is also taking a leadership role in UNO's entrepreneurship activities.

Eesley is the leader of the E-team for entrepreneurship initiatives in CBA, a member of the Nebraska Business Development Center advisory board, University of Nebraska Entrepreneurship Taskforce member, Elevator Pitch judge for UNeMed, academic advisor to the Collegiate Entrepreneurship Organization, and academic advisor to the student consulting firm started by Dr. Jerry Wagner at Peter Kiewit Institute.

When asked about his goals for his tenure at UNO, Professor Eesley says he would like to increase the degree of collaboration across the colleges on campus through programs, classes, and activities.

Eesley received his Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He has been married for 15 years to Julie and has three sons ages 12, 10, and six.

## Governor's Appointment

Kate King, CPA and part-time faculty, was appointed by Governor Dave Heineman to serve her second four-year term on the Nebraska State Board of Public Accountancy. She has also been appointed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to serve on its Board of Examiners Content Committee.



Women Business Owners Forum executive steering committee (from left): Marjorie Miskec (NBDC), Danielle Ruffin (AdminPro Connections), Andy Alexander (NBDC), BC Clark (Leading Edge Consulting), Rita Rocker (Transformation Academy) and Lee Pankowski (LP Custodial)

## Women Business Owners Forum

This year, the Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC) collaborated with the Metro Omaha Women's Business Center to establish a forum for women-business owners in the Omaha metro area. Andy Alexander, director of NBDC's Procurement Technical Assistance program led the initiative.

The forum will support entrepreneurial development among Omaha business women by creating opportunities for networking and B2B relationships. The initiative began July 18 with a kick-off event at the UNO Thompson Alumni Center. Meetings will be held each month at the Center and include a breakfast buffet, company presentations and guest speakers. For more information, call 402-554-6252.

## CBA grad is new SBIR/STTR consultant



Lisa Tedesco is the new program consultant for Small Business Innovative Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) at the Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC).

Before joining NBDC, Tedesco worked in the private sector for a large prime contractor managing their corporate small business advocacy program. She conducted outreach activities encouraging small businesses to participate as subcontractors in government bidding.

Tedesco also served in marketing and business development roles for Werner Enterprises and Cabela's. She has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from UNO.

Tedesco replaces Jean Waters who resumed a position at NBDC as national coordinator for the EPA regional information centers.



## Nebraska Star

Jason Tuller, director of the Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC) North Platte center, was awarded the 2008 Nebraska Star Performer by the Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC). The 2008 State Stars were honored at a special reception held on September 5 at the ASBDC 28th annual conference in Chicago.

Tuller was selected for being an exemplary performer, making a significant contribution to the NBDC program, and showing a strong commitment to small business in Nebraska.

NBDC is a founding member of ASBDC. With about 1,000 centers across the nation, the Small Business Development Center network provided business consulting to approximately 200,000 clients, training for more than 400,000 attendees, and other forms of management and technical assistance to approximately 600,000 small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs last year.

Tuller, who received his MBA from the University of New Brunswick, Saint John came to NBDC from Valmont Industries, Inc. where he was a production planner.

**NBDC consultant  
helps small business  
owners with  
exit strategies**



**W**hat do creating new businesses and retaining existing businesses have in common? Each is part of a solution that is going to be required to sustain and grow Nebraska's small business economy—and neither is able to address the state's business needs alone.

A 2008 survey of entrepreneurs and business owners by the Gallup organization forecasts that up to 52% or 83,000 existing employer business owners will leave their businesses within ten years; approximately 30% or 48,000 plan to leave in five years or less. Additional third-party research suggests that, for a variety of reasons, only one in three new businesses that provide employment are still operational after ten years.

It became clear to consultants at the Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC) that the energy spent to create new business must be blended with greater efforts to keep and strengthen existing businesses. To that end, NBDC launched a new, statewide initiative to provide business owners with comprehensive business transition assistance.

"In the past, helping someone sell their business or transition it to a new genera-

tion has taken a back seat to new business development," says Odee Ingersoll, director of the NBDC center at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. "If Nebraska is going to stabilize our small business economy—even grow it—we must significantly increase our efforts to keep successful businesses in their community. When we do, we keep the jobs they create, the tax base they provide, and the quality of life they offer to area residents."

Ingersoll was responsible for the creation of the new NBDC Business Transition Planning and Valuation Program. A certified Economic Development Financial Professional and a member of the Institute of Business Appraisers and the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts, he has been consulting small businesses as a center director for NBDC for the past eight years.

Ingersoll has also personally experienced the issues he now addresses in seminars across the state. A small business owner himself, he guided his family business through a generational transfer, restructured the business until it was the leader in its market, and then sold it. In the process, he discovered a program targeted to businesses that sell for 10–20 million dollars and felt it could be scaled to meet

the needs of much smaller businesses. According to Ingersoll, the program could not only increase an owner's odds of successfully transitioning the business to a new owner, but could actually improve the total compensation the owner received.

The restructured program was launched by NBDC statewide in October.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Nebraska business owners and for the communities who need to keep these businesses operational and in place," says Ingersoll. "It offers a completely different set of business transition tools that I have not seen used to help small business before."

The fee-based program is available at all seven NBDC centers throughout the state. It uses the owner's existing professionals and offers support from the NBDC counselors throughout. NBDC will also work with the buyer to prepare a business plan, financial forecasts and provide a loan package to fund the purchase.

In late October, a statewide webinar led by Ingersoll was presented to up to 100 lenders, chambers, economic development professionals and business owners across the state. The webinar, the first in a series to be offered by NBDC through February, 2009, featured University of Nebraska Vice President Pete Kotsiopulos and NBDC directors from Wayne State College and Chadron State College. For more information, call 308-865-8429 or go to [www.nebraskaexitplan.com](http://www.nebraskaexitplan.com).



# ALUMS

**Harold Sage** (BS 1954) received Outstanding Service Award from the UNO Alumni Association.

**Ilze Zigurs** (MBA 1981) received the 2007 LEO Award for lifetime exceptional achievement in information systems.

**Tal Anderson** (BSBA 1984) was recognized and inducted into the Nebraska Business Hall of Fame.

**Denise McCauley** (BSBA 1988) has been named vice president, core operations at Woodmont of the World Life Insurance Society.

**Mike Kohler** (MBA 1992) has accepted the position of vice president of government relations and community affairs with the North Central Division of Mediacom Communications in Des Moines, Iowa.

**Mike Lewis** (BSBA 1995, EMBA 2008) has been named vice president of commercial lending at the Omaha branch of Equitable Bank.

**Jodi Fritz** (MBA 2002) is the owner of Tomāto Tomato, an indoor farmer's market located at 156th and Center, Omaha.

**Michelle Manthei Kankousky** (BSBA 2002, MBA 2008) was inducted into the UNO Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Matt Milbrodt** (MBA 2002) is director of leadership development through Wal-Mart University.

**Erik Aden** (BSBA 2004) has been named divisional vice president of the Great Plains branch of AXA Advisors in Omaha.

**Andrew J. Ash** (BSBA 2004) has been named property manager with Investors Realty, Omaha.

**Dan Nixa** (BSBA 2006) former recipient of UNO's Vice Chancellor's Award is now studying law at Vanderbilt University.

**Donald Otondi** (MBA 2006) is project manager at Cornell University for a \$49 million grant from National Institutes of Health (NIH). The project involves bringing faculty, doctors and research scientists together to collaborate using cutting edge technology for patient treatments and preventive interventions.

**Paul Allen** (MBA 2007) accepted a position as sales account manager, Structural Division with PCC Structural, Inc, in Portland, Oregon.

**Chad Brakhahn** (BSBA 2007) was admitted to Harvard Law School.

**Cody Butt** (BSBA 2007) was admitted to the Harvard MBA program.

**Patrick Dietze** (BSBA 2007) has been promoted to warranty manager of ARID Resources, Omaha.

**Jimi DiPrima** (BSBA 2007) is the owner of Jimi D's Food & Spirits on 63rd and Center, Omaha.

**Scott Bradley** (BSBA 2008) accepted a position with KPMG and recently passed all four sections of the CPA exam.



## FROM THE FOUNDATION

As you know, UNO's College of Business Administration will move into its new home, Mammel Hall, in August 2010. The new site is ideally situated at the center of UNO's south campus, within walking distance of the Peter Kiewit Institute, the Scott Technology Center, and the new Aksarben Village. In September, this vibrant retail and office development also became the new home of the University of Nebraska Foundation offices.

The location of Mammel Hall will be ideal for generating and fostering business relationships, student internship opportunities, collaborating with the Peter Kiewit Institute and Scott Technology Center, and much more.

As we celebrate our University's centennial year and the strengthening of our College, I hope our dedicated alumni will invest in the community's future business leaders by supporting the College of Business Administration and its outstanding students.

If you would like more information on naming opportunities at Mammel Hall, or ways you can choose to support CBA, please contact me at (402) 502-4109 or at [skutschkau@nufoundation.org](mailto:skutschkau@nufoundation.org).

*Sue Kutschkau*

Development Director  
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## Electronic Advantage

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Clockwise from left: Christy Chappellear, Stephanie Schmid, Professor Emeritus Bob Mathis, Kevin Bradley, Amy Myerdirck, Stephanie Lemeck, Julie Farr

## CBA hosts HR Games

This year, CBA students preparing for careers in the human resources field participated in an intercollegiate academic competition sponsored by the Society for Human Resources Management. Thanks to the support of the Human Resources Association of the Midlands (HRAM), UNO was selected to host the event.

To prepare for the Jeopardy-style contest, students met weekly for two months before the event. Faculty and volunteers from HRAM coached the UNO team for the competition.

After a two-day competition judged by representatives of HRAM, UNO teams took ninth and 11th places out of 22 colleges. UNO teams plan to compete in the 2009 event at St. Thomas University in Minneapolis. CBA will seek to host the Games again in 2011 to help inaugurate Mammel Hall, according to Patti Meglich, assistant professor of management and faculty advisor for the event.

Students who are interested in participating in the 2009 HR Games, should email pmeglich@unomaha.edu.

## Website places high in national competition

MavMoney.com represents the first step in a program UNO's chapter of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) is developing to educate college students on managing money. According to Burch Kealey, associate professor of accounting and BAP faculty advisor, the site has been a tremendous success. UNO introduces new students to the site as part of its orientation program, and due to newspaper and TV coverage, visitors from around the world come to the site.

The chapter was looking for more durable activities to involve its members when BAP, an honor society for financial information students and professionals, issued a national challenge to develop financial literacy programs. The UNO group decided that creating a website to teach students money management could also serve as the basis for a continuing program for BAP.

Nicole Furman, Scott Bradley and Aaron Junge were the primary driving force for MavMoney.com, but at least 20 students have been actively involved in its design, content and maintenance. Students took full responsibility for the technical and content issues associated with creating the website. The only formal support they receive is hosting; CBA's IT department hosts the site on one of its servers.

In April, the students presented their project in a competition attended by 30 other chapters from across the region and won second place. Chapter members are currently collaborating to increase the depth of the content. Visit [www.mavmoney.com](http://www.mavmoney.com) to see the results of their efforts.

## Student-run business makes first sale

Customize-a-Ball is up and running and made its first sale. This marks an important milestone of the CBA innovation and entrepreneurship program according to David Ambrose, faculty advisor, and Joe Vasko, company president.



Back: Aaron Junge, Kim Kesler, Tyler Cary, Scott Bradley, Nicole Furman, Andrew Suing  
Front: Carley Hunzeker, Ashley O'Connor, Hye Ji Park, Lili Li, Uma Mamarasulova, Leslie Irvine

# CALENDAR

## JANUARY

- 12 Spring semester classes start
- 24 Sixth Annual Alumni Night on the Ice, Maverick hockey game

## FEBRUARY

- 3 MBA Leadership Series, speaker David Sokol
- 21 Centennial Gala

## MARCH

- 4 MBA Leadership Series
- 31 CBA Honors and Awards ceremony and program

## MAY

- 8 Commencement
- 14 Distinguished Alumni Luncheon



### CBA's National Advisory Board

Top to bottom: Dennis Blackman, Lloyd Meyer, Culver Stone, Rod Heng, Michael Maroney, Tim Hart, Becki Drahota, Horace Wu, Larry Larson, John Bredemeyer, Mary Prefontaine, Fran Marshall, Rick Sampson



[cba.unomaha.edu](http://cba.unomaha.edu)

Visit the newly designed website for press releases, videos, photographs, and latest views from the Mammel Hall construction webcam.



## SIXTH ANNUAL ALUMNI NIGHT ON THE ICE

**Saturday, January 24**  
**Qwest Center Omaha**

5:30 pm • Pre-game buffet  
7:05 • Mavs vs. Miami  
\$20, adult  
\$15, ages 2–10 (under 2 yrs, free)

**Ticket price includes—**  
Pre-game buffet • Door prizes  
• Hockey 101 with former Mav David Brisson • Lower bowl seating • Coach's Pep Talk  
• Designated game seating for CBA grads • **MORE!**

Register by Jan. 16 —  
402-554-4802  
Toll-free UNO-MAV-ALUM  
sking@unomaha.edu

# College of Business Administration

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